

Other Accomplishments

In response to Community Wildfire Protection Plans across the county, we have initiated several fuels reduction projects with landowners in high risk areas. Our Volunteer Assessment Corps, made up of neighborhood volunteers and local fire district personnel, are also performing free FireWise risk assessments for people living in fire-prone areas. Owners are using this information to take appropriate steps to protect their property, and many are looking forward to participating in community fuels reduction projects when funds become available.



Other work in progress:

- Wells, converting irrigation from surface to ground water
- Knapp-Wham/Hanan Detwiler irrigation ditch consolidation
- Log structures to provide irrigation intake pools and create additional fish habitat
- Conservation plan implementation

2008 Feature Accomplishment

Jones-Shotwell Fish Screen and Diversion Modifications

Resource Challenge

The screen at the Jones-Shotwell irrigation facility on the Wenatchee River needed improvements to meet current requirements for fish protection. In addition, the rock dam that diverted water into the side channel had to be pushed back up each year, disturbing the river bottom and important fish habitat.



Jones-Shotwell diversion channel and headworks



Project Summary and Results

The project benefits both people and wildlife. Not only is there more quality habitat available to salmon in the Wenatchee watershed, but the irrigators also have a more reliable facility. The work included a new fish screen as well as a new rock wing dam to direct water into the channel and headworks. Wood and boulder structures were added to provide more fish habitat. As a result, fish can rest and hide away from the main flow of the river, especially during seasonal high flows and when the young salmon emerge from the gravel and begin to feed.

While the irrigation facility was being upgraded to benefit fish, it also received structural improvements to make it easier and more efficient to operate. New measurement devices will allow quicker and more accurate metering of the irrigation water, and improved technology simplifies maintenance and monitoring. Reduced operating costs, more efficient use of irrigation water, and protection from the impacts of salmon regulations are some of the outcomes for the irrigators.

Key Project Partners

The US Bureau of Reclamation and the Conservation Commission's Cluster Engineering program provided design services and consultation. Funding was through the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Priest Rapids Tributary Committee, WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife, and US Fish & Wildlife Service.

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More Work To Do

- Educate local citizens
- Conduct FireWise outreach
- Improve water quality problems in targeted areas
- Upgrade irrigation systems
- Install water metering devices
- Encourage new conservation and water quality practices
- Implement locally-developed action plans

